

I would like to submit the following comments on the NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULE MAKING, MB Docket No. 03-185, adopted August 6, 2003.

The community in which I live, like many rural communities throughout the western United States is not served directly by any primary TV station. People in our community who watch any local TV programing get this programing through television translators. In Wyoming there are only two TV stations presently transmitting DTV signals and those are at very low power serving very small areas. Some of the cable companies are in bankruptcy and serve only a small portion of rural communities anyway. If truly rural America is to be served by local television programing, there is a great need for many additional translators in Wyoming, both analog and digital. There is a need to create a rural translator service so small communities can get new licencing for translators through a system of rolling day windows. We support the concept set out in RM-10666.

On page 45 paragraph 113. Termination of analog service:

If there are no local DTV signals for rural translators to receive, they should not be expected to cease analog service and transmit DTV until there are several DTV signals available and the community is ready to receive DTV signals.

On page 48 paragraph 124, Fees:

Many television translators are simply a community service and the groups or organizations that run them have difficulty getting enough money to pay the power bill even if they can find someone to donate the time and parts to keep them on the air.

Respectfully submitted by,
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